GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1037
ANSWERED ON:24.02.2003
SATLUJ-YAMUNA LINK CANAL PROJECT
JAGMEET SINGH BRAR;JAI PRAKASH;M. JAGANNATH;P.D. ELANGOVAN;RATTAN LAL KATARIA

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether despite directions from the Hon'ble Prime Minister and Supreme Court the work on Satluj-Yamuna Canal Project has not been resumed;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the further action proposed by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SMT. BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY)

(a) & (b) As per the Hon'ble Supreme Court judgement dated the 15th January, 2002, the State of Punjab was directed to continue the digging of the canal and make it functional within one year. Subsequently, the Central Government has also been pursuing with the State Government for details in regard to compliance of the judgement by the State Government. The State, however could not resume work on the Sutlej Yamuna Link Canal portion for their own reasons.

(c) The Supreme Court judgement has also directed the Union of India to complete the canal as expeditiously as possible through its own agencies, if the canal is not completed by the State of Punjab within a period of one year. Keeping in view the intricacies involved as the canal work was executed by, and is concerned with, the State, details such as pending works, revised costs and construction schedule have been sought from the Government of Punjab for working out a contingency plan and these are awaited.